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FROM: BERLIN

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 332, NOVEMBER 14, 8 PM

SENT BONN 285 DEPARTMENT 332, MOSCOW 86 REPEATED INFORMATION LONDON, PARIS, WARSAW UNNUMBERED.

DEVELOPMENTS ON EAST BERLIN SINCE KHRUSHCHEV NOV 10 SPEECH INCREASINGLY INDICATE POLICY TO "DAMP DOWN" REACTION FOLLOWING KHRUSHCHEV'S COMMENTS RE BERLIN.

NEUES DEUTSCHLAND EDITORIAL NOV 12 WAS FIRST EAST GERMAN INTERPRETATION TO CHARACTERIZE REMARKS AS HYPOTHETICAL. EDITORIAL SPECIFICALLY STATED "WHEN KHRUSHCHEV PROPOSED WEST POWERS WITHDRAW FROM BERLIN IF ON ITS SIDE SOV UNION TURNED OVER POWERS TO GDR, THIS WAS ONLY IN INTEREST PEACE AND NORMALIZATION BERLIN."

GROTEWOHL PRESS CONFERENCE NOV 12 (OURTEL 272 TO BONN, 319 TO DEPT) AND SUBSEQUENT EAST GERMAN WIRE SERVICE CORRECTION (OURTEL BONN 274 DEPT 321 MOSCOW 81) ALSO STRESSED THAT KHRUSHCHEV'S REMARKS WERE MERELY PROPOSAL, ADDING STATEMENT THAT IF CHANGES NECESSARY BERLIN THEY PROBABLY BE MADE WITHIN GENERAL SETTLEMENT.

KLEIN (WEST BERLIN SENAT PROTOCOL CHIEF) TOLD TRIMBLE THAT ON NOV 12 EAST BERLIN SOV EMB SPOKESMAN TOLD HIM SOV EMB HAS JUST RECEIVED OFFICIAL MOSCOW INTERPRETATION KHRUSHCHEV SPEECH AND THAT KHRUSHCHEV HAD SAID NOTHING WHICH WAS INTENDED TO IMPLY MEASURES AGAINST WEST BERLIN.

POLITBURO MEMBER NORDEN IN WEST BERLIN ELECTION RALLY SPEECH NOV 13 (OURTEL 283 TO BONN, 330 TO DEPT) CRITICIZED WEST REACTION AND STATED "WHAT DID KHRUSHCHEV SUGGEST? HE PROPOSED ACCOMPLISHMENT GERMAN PEACE TREATY WITHOUT DELAY,

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AND WITHDRAWAL ALL FOREIGN OCCUPATION TROOPS FROM ALL GERMANY SO GERMANS CAN WORK OUT THEIR OWN SETTLEMENT."

NOV 12 AND 13 ALSO REVEALED SHARP REVERSAL IN TREATMENT KHRUSHCHEV'S SPEECH BY SOV ZONE PRESS AND MINOR SPOKESMEN. EAST GERMANS PROVINCIAL PRESS NOV 12 REPORTED SPEECH AND COMMENTS BY LOCAL FUNCTIONAIRES IN STRONG LANGUAGE, E.G. "WEST POWERS HAVE NO RIGHT IN BERLIN", "WEST POWERS MUST GET OUT NOW", ETC. NOV 13 REPORTS, HOWEVER, UNIFORMLY ASSUMED MORE REASONABLE AND CAUTIOUS TONE MIRRORED IN GROTEWOHL'S PRESS CONFERENCE. MAJOR THEME WAS EMPHASIS KHRUSHCHEV SPEECH AS INDICATION DESIRE ACHIEVE PROGRESS ON GERMAN PEACE TREATY. NO MENTION WEST POWERS GETTING OUT OF BERLIN.

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